

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Ohrdruf-Kinzel Area.

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

10 November 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES

3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. At 10 a.m. on 28 September 1952, 13 x 152-mm artillery pieces, 8 x 45-mm AT guns and 3 boxcarloads of troops were entrained at the Zelehen (C 51/J 05) railroad station. Trucks carrying troops and billeting equipment were seen driving to, and returning from, the Zelehen railroad station.¹ At 4 p.m., a troop train carrying 27 M-13 rocket launchers and an undetermined number of trucks left the Zelehen railroad station in the direction of Gotha.² From noon to p.m. on 4 October, a mixed unit with 34 JS-3 tanks and 40 x 122-mm artillery pieces was entrained at the Mechterstaedt railroad station. Trucks were seen shuttling between the Mechterstaedt railroad station and Haina. At 5:30 p.m., a troop train loaded with 22 T-34 tanks and 4 trucks was at the Froettsstadt railroad station, with the engine faced toward Gotha.³ At 3 p.m. on 6 October, a troop train loaded with 6 three-section pontoons, 10 motorboats and bridge-building equipment as well as about 150 troops wearing black-brown epaulets, and another troop train loaded with 27 trucks were seen at the Ohrdruf (C 51/J 15) railroad station, with the engine faced toward Gotha.⁴ At 6:30 a.m. on 7 October, a troop train, loaded with 27 T-34 tanks, passed through the Gotha railroad station, coming from Ohrdruf and proceeding in the direction of Erfurt. At 10 a.m. on 8 October, a troop train, loaded with 15 x 85-mm AT guns, 8 x 45-mm AT guns, 7 armored scout cars and an undetermined number of trucks stood at the Seeborn railroad station, with the engine faced toward Erfurt. The train had come from the direction of Gotha. At 7:30 p.m. on 9 October, a troop train carrying 20 x 122-mm artillery pieces, 7 prime movers and truck passed through the Gotha railroad station. The train proceeded in the direction of Erfurt.⁵

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- 2 -

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2. During the period from 29 September to 1 October, the barracks installations on the west and the east side of Schubert Strasse, Gotha, were being vacated. Troop units and materiel leaving the Heeresflak Kaserne on the west side of Schubert Strasse by road in the direction of Ohrdruf included 8 trucks with billeting equipment towing 122-mm mortars. (C-3) Between 2 and 5 p.m. on 1 October, 8 trucks

shuttled between the Gotha railroad station and the two barracks installations, hauling a total of about 300 troops and billeting equipment to the installations. Sedan occupied by a general, was seen entering the Heeresflak Kaserne west of Schubert Strasse at the same time.⁶ 50X1-HUM

3. During the night of 30 September, materiel loaded at the Eisenach (L 51/H 76) freight station included: 4 x 85-mm AA guns with shields similar to those of the German 88-mm AA gun, and 15 trucks

Twenty T-34 tanks, 4 SU 85 guns, and several trucks were entrained at the station between 11 and 11:30 a.m. on 3 October.⁵

4. A branch-of service insignia was found on Highway No 84 at the Kindel troop training grounds in mid-September. A truck carrying pontoons, which had a flat tire, had been seen there. 50X1-HUM

5. At 10:50 a.m. on 2 October, a troop train loaded with 10 trucks, 1 field kitchen, 2 motorcycles and about 100 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, was seen at the Erfurt railroad station with the engine faced toward Gotha. 50X1-HUM

6. At 12:30 p.m. on 2 October, a troop train carrying 6 T-34 tanks, 6 armored scout car, 3 armored personnel carriers, 6 rocket launchers and about 8 trucks was seen at the Weissenfels railroad station.⁸ 50X1-HUM

1. Comment. Troops and materiel entrained after 10 a.m. on 28 September at Emleben probably were elements of the unidentified artillery brigade of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps bound for Gera.

2. Comment. The shipment which left Emleben at 4:06 p.m. on 28 September is fairly definitely believed to have carried elements of the 316th RL Regt of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps to Saalfeld.

3. Comment. on 4 October, three trains of the 17 Hvy Tank GP Regt of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div went from Eisenach to Weissenfels.

4. Comment. 27 shipments went from the Ohrdruf area in the training area of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps north of Dessau during the period from 6 to 8 October

5. Comment. three trains left Ohrdruf on 9 October for an undetermined destination, presumably for the training area of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps north of Dessau.

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- 3 -

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6. [] Comment. As the units of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div stationed there were continuously employed at the border, the units mentioned in the present report probably were reinforcements. []

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7. [] Comment. []
[] a train [] transporting a unit of the
498th AAA Regt [] of the 49th Gds Mtz Rifle Corps, went from Eisenach to
Naumburg on 1 October. []
this train arrived in Naumburg at 11 a.m. on 1 October. The unit detrained left
for the Bismarck Kaserne. Motor vehicles observed with the unit included some
that are also mentioned in this report. []

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